



8/10/99
PATENT
ATTY. DOCKET NO. GIN/03DV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Mark H. Ginocchio Art Unit: 3626
Serial No. : 09/247,682 Examiner: V. Sakran
Filed : February 9, 1999
For : SELF-ALIGNING HOLDING DEVICE AND METHODS OF USE
THEREFOR

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

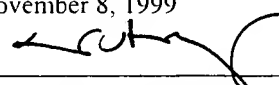
In response to the Examiner's Office Action dated
September 20, 1999, please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Amended) A device for handling or storing one or
more items, comprising:

a pair of generally rigid jaw members of material
a) selected from a group consisting of polymer [or] and ceramic
material, each having a hinge end and an outer end, the jaw
members comprising a mechanical latch to maintain said outer ends
in an engaged position, each jaw member including an inner

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail,
postage prepaid in an envelope addressed to: Assistant
Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:
November 8, 1999


Thomas W. Humphrey
Reg. No. 34,353